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FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2281
INFO RUEHRC/DEPT OF AGRICULTURE WASHDC PRIORITY
RUCPDOC/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC PRIORITY

UNCLAS PANAMA 000576

SIPDIS

USTR FOR LESLIE O'CONNOR USDA/FAS FOR RONALD LORD EEB/TTP/ABT/ATP FOR JOHN MENARD

E.O. 12958: N/A TAGS: <u>EAGR</u> <u>ETRD</u> <u>PM</u>

SUBJECT: PANAMA: SUGAR QUOTA FULFILLED AND SUPPLY AVAILABLE

REF: SECSTATE 71823

11. (U) On July 08, 2008 EconOff and FAS FSN delivered talking points to Ricardo Tunon of the Vice Ministry of Trade regarding sugar exports for FY 2008 as requested by Reftel. Ricardo Tunon coordinates sugar exports with Panama's sugar mills. Tunon explained that the 1,637.09 metric tons of sugar that remains of Panama's original sugar quota of 30,538.00 metric tons is too small to make a shipment. Therefore, Panama currently considers its sugar quota used for FY 2008. Panama would be willing to ship more sugar if allowed to do so. MESA